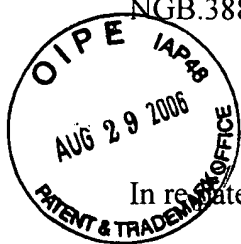


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Naoki YOSHIDA

Serial No.: 10/814,329

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filing Date: April 1, 2004

Examiner: Hewitt, James M.

For: PIPING CONNECTOR AND METHOD OF FABRICATION THE SAME

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND STATUS INQUIRY

Sir:

Please indicate the status of the above-identified application, including an indication as to when the first Office Action on the merits may be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean M. McGinn
Registration No. 34,386

Date: 8/29/06
McGinn IP Law, PLLC
Intellectual Property Law
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254